

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ERDA-05

ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07

NRC-05 OES-03 DODE-00 PM-04 FEA-01 SS-15 SAJ-01 SP-02

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7138

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 1527

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH IAEA TW CH FR US CA

SUBJ: PRC ATTITUDE TOWARD IAEA

1. AT LUNCH FEBRUARY 24, FRENCH GOVERNOR
GOLDSCHMIDT DESCRIBED IN SOME DETAIL HIS
NOVEMBER VISIT TO CHINA WITH 12 OTHER FRENCH SCIENTISTS.

2. AFTER RECOUNTING AT LENGTH CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER
WHICH VISIT TOOK PLACE, INVOLVING SEVERAL FALSE
STARTS, GOLDSCHMIDT DESCRIBED VISITS TO TWO
BASIC RESEARCH LABORATORIES WHERE HE SAID
CONDITIONS WERE RELATIVELY APPALLING, DIRTY,
POOR EQUIPMENT, ETC., BUT THAT CHINESE WERE
GETTING MAXIMUM OUT OF FACILITIES GIVEN THEIR
CONDITION. SUBSEQUENTLY, FRENCH GROUP WERE
TAKEN TO VISIT URANIUM MINING INSTITUTE.
GOLDSCHMIDT INDICATED THAT NOWHERE ELSE IN
THE WORLD WOULD AN ENTIRE INSTITUTE BE FOCUSED
PURELY ON URANIUM. HE SAID THIS INSTITUTE WAS
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IMPECCABLE, WITH THE LATEST EQUIPMENT, HIGHLY

EFFICIENTLY RUN AND EXTREMELY IMPRESSIVE. IT WAS EVIDENT THAT CHINESE WERE GIVING ABSOLUTELY TOP PRIORITY TO DEVELOPING THEIR NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES.

3. ON TWO OCCASIONS, HE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF PRC MEMBERSHIP IN IAEA WITH TSIEN, DIRECTOR, INST. OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, AND SHA, DIRECTOR, INST. OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ACADEMY OF SCIENCE. THESE OFFICIALS INDICATED PRC WAS UNWILLING TO JOIN IAEA UNTIL IAEA CANCELLED ITS EXISTING AGREEMENTS (ON SAFE-GUARDS) WITH TAIWAN. GOLDSCHMIDT SAID HE ENDEAVORED TO PERSUADE THESE OFFICIALS THAT IT WAS IN PRC'S OWN INTEREST FOR IAEA TO MAINTAIN SUCH SAFEGUARDS. OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE TALKED, HOWEVER, WERE ADAMANT THAT PRC COULD NOT CONSIDER JOINING AGENCY UNTIL EXISTING AGREEMENTS WITH TAIWAN WERE CANCELLED. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION, GOLDSCHMIDT INDICATED HE PRESUMED PRC WAS GOING ON ASSUMPTION THAT IF IAEA SAFEGUARDS WERE CANCELLED, U.S. AND CANADA WOULD REPLACE THEM WITH BI-LATERAL SAFE-GUARDS IN TAIWAN.TAPE

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